

Amendments to the Specification:

Kindly amend the specification as follows.

1. Kindly insert the following new paragraph after the paragraph on page 2, lines 12-15, which ends with "...as the latter.":

Figure 2 is a cross sectional view through a conductive path on substrate 6.

2. Kindly replace the paragraph on page 2, line 29, to page 3, line 2, and which begins with "In the prior art...", with the following new paragraph:

As ~~in~~ the prior art, ~~thesaid~~ electrically conductive paths 9 of Figure 1 are typically made in two steps. The first step consists in depositing a layer 20 of a very good electrically conductive material, such as copper or gold based alloy. The second step than consists in depositing a fine protective layer 30, on the conductive layer 20, formed of a nickel based alloy with good resistance to oxidisation. Sometimes an underlayer 40 is deposited on the substrate 6 before depositing the conductive layer 20 as illustrated in Figure 2. This underlayer 40, usually formed of a nickel based alloy, allows the adherence of the conductive layer 20 to the substrate 6 to be improved. It will be noted that the nickel based underlayer 40 also acts as a barrier against the diffusion of the metal from the conductive layer 20 in the direction of the support 6.